

ASST. CONSERVATOR OF FORESTS,
WILD LIFE CIRCLE,
TALLAND, SIMLA, H.P.,
February 20, 1980.

M. S. JAIN

3. OCCURRENCE OF THE LARGE BROWN FLYING SQUIRREL AND MOUSE DEER NEAR UDAIPUR, RAJASTHAN

The Large Brown Flying Squirrel (*Petaurista petaurista philippensis*) and the Mouse Deer (*Tragulus meminna*) have not been reported from Rajasthan so far (Ellerman & Morrison-Scott 1951, Prater 1980). Recently I saw the large Brown Flying Squirrel and the Mouse Deer in the teak dominated, dry deciduous forests of Dharyavad (c 24° 4' N, 74°

24'E) near Udaipur.

I have seen the Flying Squirrels in the jungles of Jharol, Gogunda and Kotra Tehsils of Udaipur also. In the early thirties my father shot two Mouse deer in the jungles of Jharol (c 24°N, 73°E). The local name of Mouse deer is 'Phonkra'. The forest in these areas are Tropical dry deciduous Miscellaneous Forests.

41, PANCHWATI,
UDAIPUR-313 001,
RAJASTHAN,
October 9, 1980.

RAZA H. TEHSIN

REFERENCES

ELLERMAN, J. R. & MORRISON-SCOTT, T. C. S. (1951): A Checklist of Palaearctic and Indian Mammals 1758-1946. British Museum, London.

PRATER, S. H. (1980): The Book of Indian Animals. Bombay Natural History Society, Bombay. (Reprinted, 4th edition.)

4. OBSERVATIONS ON THE EPIDEMIOLOGY OF HAIRY-FOOTED GERBIL, *GERBILLUS GLEADOWI* MURRAY, IN THE INDIAN DESERT

According to Prakash (1967), *G. gleadowi* is distributed in the arid belt of Jaisalmer, Gadra Road, Jodhpur and is more common in Gadra Road sector. Some more information has been added to literature by Prakash (1975) on this rodent and in this communication, we are reporting our observations on the rodent when it invaded the *khari* crop fields in enormous numbers.

An explosion of the population of this rodent occurred at the onset of the monsoon in 1971, in Sanchore tehsil of Jalore district, whole of Barmer district, parts of Shergarh and Phalodi tehsils of Jodhpur district and Pokaran tehsil of Jaisalmer district when the following investigations/observations were made on this rodent.

The local name of the rodent is *chotti ratod*